

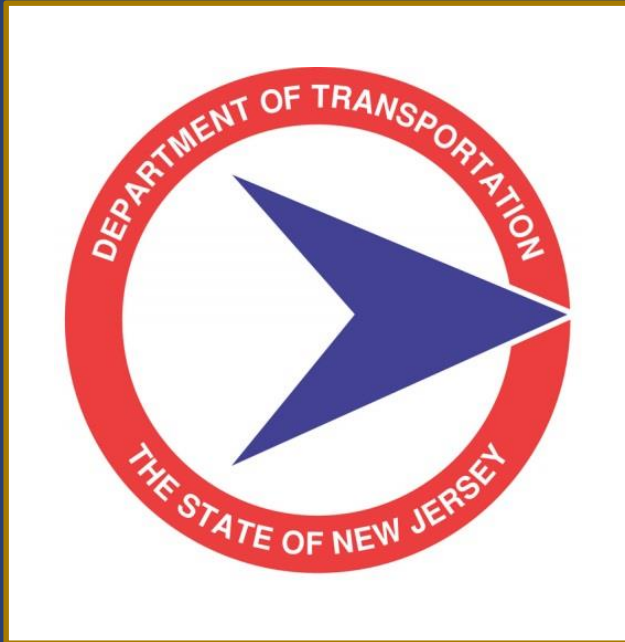
# State of Practice for the Design of Bridge Fender Systems with Polymeric Materials

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# Impetus:

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- NJDOT RFP-2014-15-02:  
*Fiberglass Composite  
Materials Specification  
Redevelopment*
- NJDOT Solicitation #108:  
*Bridge Engineering Services  
for Maintenance Bridge  
Fender Replacement*

# Impetus:

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- Redevelopment of Section 916: Fiberglass Composite Materials into a performance based specification
  - One main goal was to understand how and where these materials are used
- One of the main uses is in pile supported bridge fender systems



# Fender Systems:

## Prevent Damage to Bridge



- 35 people were killed when the Sunshine Skyway bridge was struck by a freighter and subsequently collapsed

## Prevent Damage to Vessel



- The Cosco Busan dumbered 53,000 gallons of oil after striking a tower of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge



# Fender Systems from Composite Materials:



Marine Borers in Timber



Corrosion of Steel and Concrete

# Fender Systems from Composite Materials:



Mechanical properties of composite materials can vary greatly!



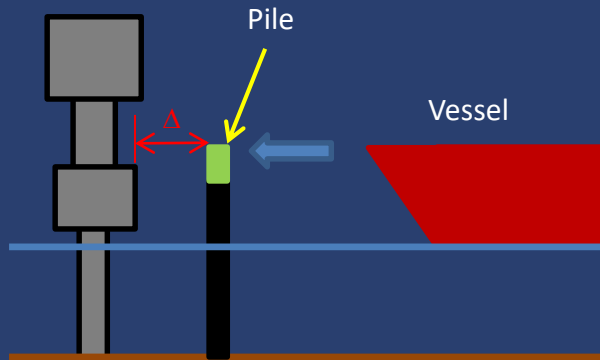
Marine Borers in Timber

Concrete

# Fender Systems:

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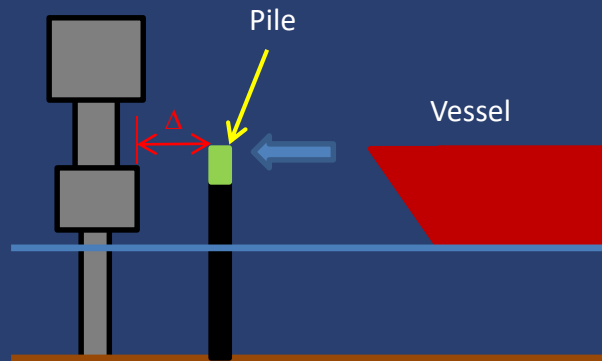
- Design of Fender Systems is an iterative process based on energy absorption (AASHTO: 3.14.15).
  - The kinetic energy of a moving vessel is dissipated by work done by flexure, shear, and torsion in the fender system
- The energy dissipated can be estimated from the area under the load deflection curve of the fender system



# Fender Piles:

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- Fender piles are designed for:
  - Lateral Resistance (AASHTO: 10.7.3.12)
  - Pile structural resistance (AASHTO: 10.7.3.13)
  - Drivability (AASHTO: 10.7.8)



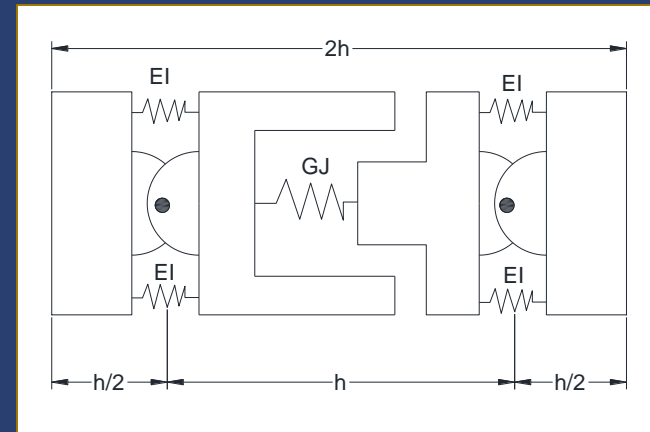


# Lateral Resistance (AASHTO 10.7.3.12)

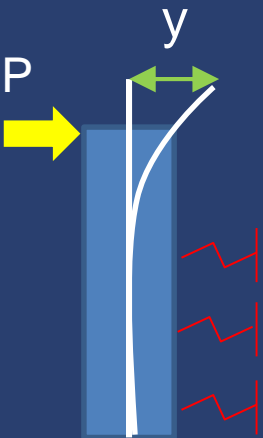
- Lateral resistance for a pile must be done using a method which accounts for load, geometry, and soil properties

$$EI \frac{d^4 y}{dx^4} + P_x \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + E_s y = 0$$

- Differential equation solved by Ensoft L-pile



- Discrete element formulation used in FB-Multiplier by the Bridge Software Institute at the University of Florida



# Pile Structural Resistance and Drivability

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- Articles 10.7.3.13 and 10.7.8 of the AASHTO Bridge Design Specifications address pile structural resistance and drivability for timber, steel, concrete, and prestressed concrete piles, respectively
- Provisions associated with piles made of polymer composite materials have not yet been developed.

# Polymer Materials:

## Creative Pultrusion

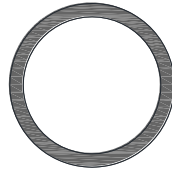


Series II CP076  
203mm X 6.35 mm (8 in. X 0.25 in.)  
E-glass reinforcement  
Vinyl Ester Matrix



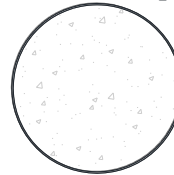
TU455  
305mm X 9.52 mm (12 in. X 0.375 in.)  
E-glass reinforcement Polyurethane Matrix

## Harbor Technologies



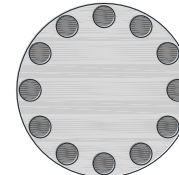
HarborPile  
311mm (12.25 in.) O.D. 8 ply  
E-glass reinforcement  
Polyurethane or Vinyl Ester Matrix

## Lancaster Composite

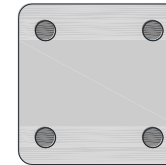


CP40  
323 mm (12.7 in.) O.D.  
E-glass reinforcement Epoxy or  
Polyester Matrix Concrete Infill

## Bedford Technologies



SeaPile  
330mm (13 in.) O.D.  
Pile Material: High Density Polyethylene  
13 FRP reinforcing bars  
Bar Diameter 41 mm (1.625 in.)  
Bar: E-glass reinforcement  
Bar: Polyester Matrix



SeaTimber  
305 mm X 305 mm (12 in. X 12 in.)  
Pile Material: High Density  
Polyethylene 4 FRP reinforcing bars Bar  
Diameter 38 mm (1.5 in.) Bar: E-glass  
reinforcement Bar: Polyester Matrix



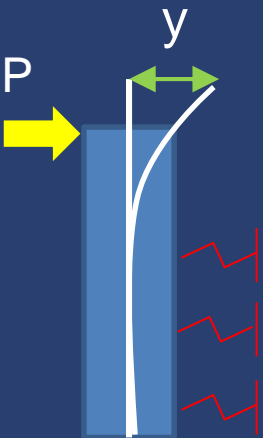
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# Analysis of Polymer Fender Piles:

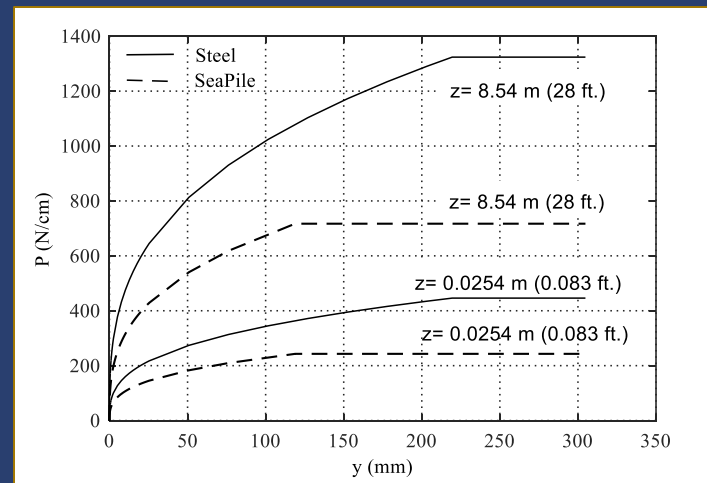
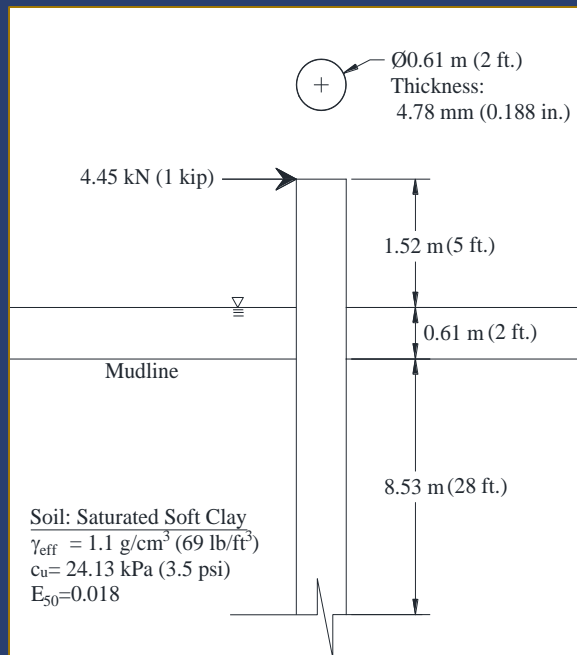
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- Proper analysis of polymer composite fender systems must account for the inherent anisotropic and viscoelastic properties of the material
- When performing the P-y analysis, the shear deformation of the pile cannot be ignored.



# Analysis of Polymer Fender Piles:

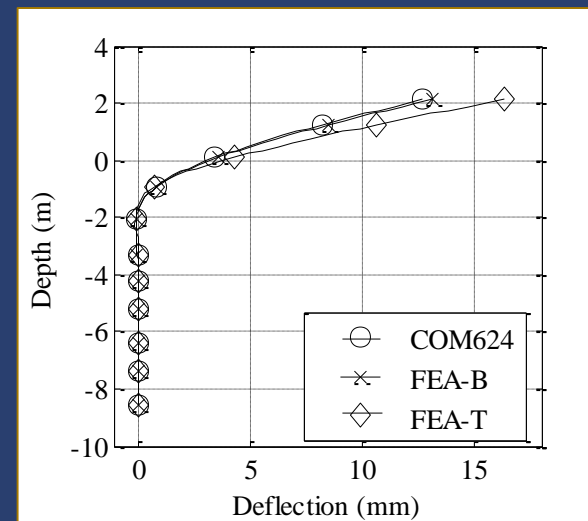
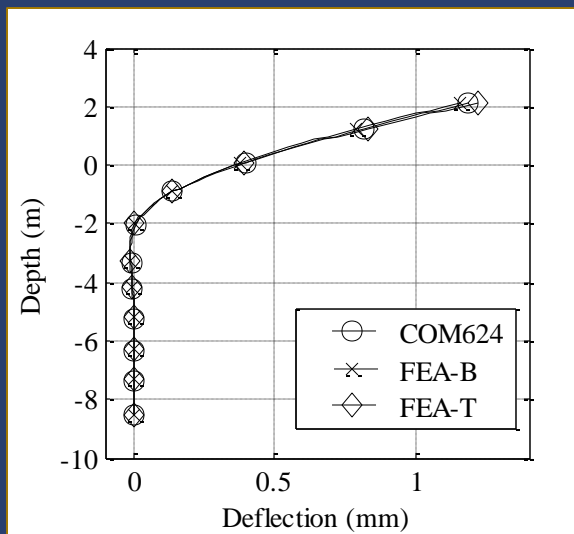
- To evaluate the significance of shear deformation on lateral deflection, P-y analyses were performed to compare a steel pipe pile to a SeaPile® using a general FEA software
  - Pile discretized into 84 elements
  - Static nonlinear analysis performed





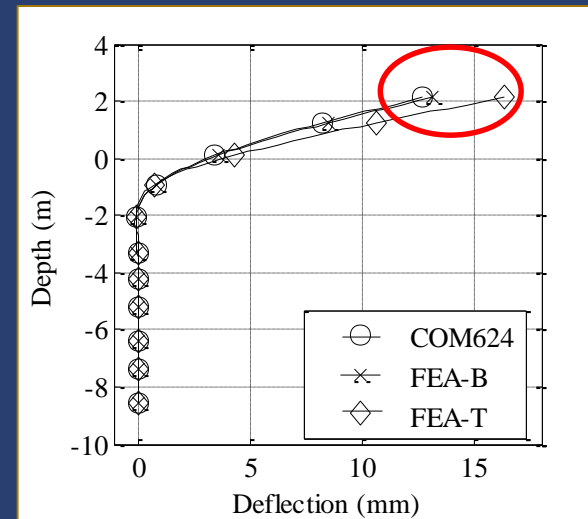
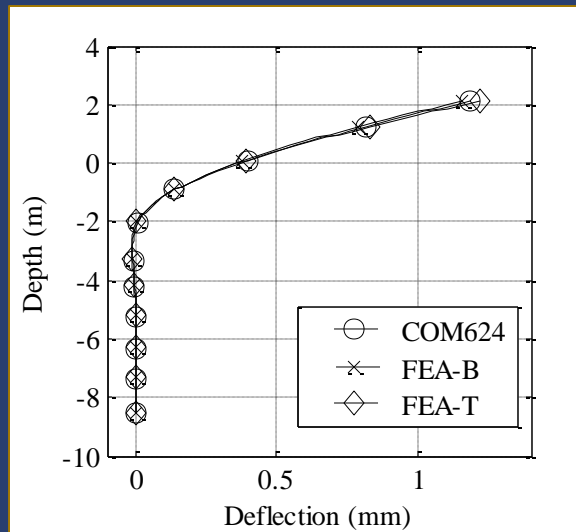
# Analysis of Polymer Fender Piles:

Analysis	Steel Pipe Pile	SeaPile®
COM624	1.19 mm (0.0467 in.)	12.7 mm (0.500 in.)
FEA-B	1.16 mm (0.0455 in.)	13.1 mm (0.516 in.)
FEA-T	1.22 mm (0.0481 in.)	16.4 mm (0.644 in.)



# Analysis of Polymer Fender Piles:

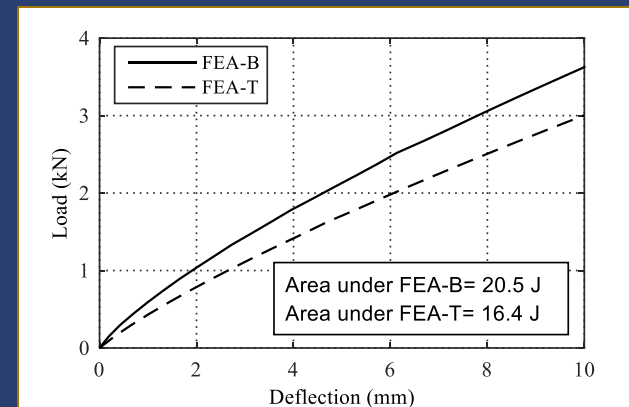
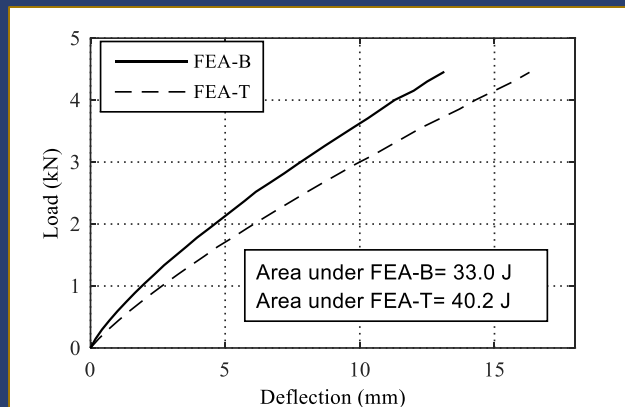
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25%  
Increase

# Analysis of Polymer Fender Piles:

- Depending on the limiting factor of the design, neglecting shear deformation can lead to unconservative estimates of the amount of energy absorbed

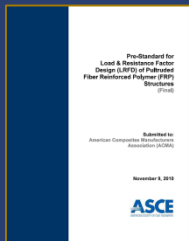


# Strength Limit State:

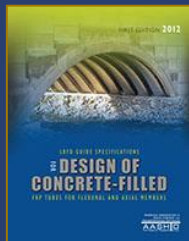
- The strength of polymer composite piles can theoretically be estimated from existing guidelines and standards



ASTM D7258-14: *Standard Specification for Polymer Piles*



The ASCE Pre-Standard for Load & Resistance Factor Design (LRFD) of Pultruded Fiber Reinforced Polymer (FRP) Structures



The AASHTO LRFD Guide Specifications for Design of Concrete-Filled FRP Tubes for Flexural and Axial Members

# ASTM D7258-14

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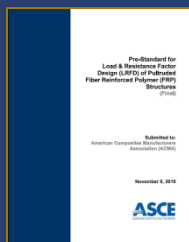
- Claims applicability to all polymer composite pile systems
- The specification contains technical flaws that can jeopardize safety of some polymer composite pile systems
  - Nominal flexural stress is based on the assumption that each material will fail due to rupture at the extreme outer fiber.
    - Multiple other failure modes have been observed by multiple authors (Fam and Rizkalla, 2002; Polyzois et al., 1998; Mirmiran et al., 2000; and Zureick and Kim, 2002.)
  - Assumptions made in the development of stability factors are not applicable to piles made of anisotropic materials





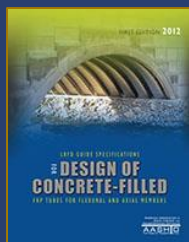
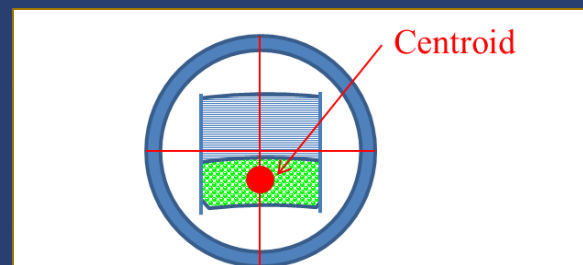
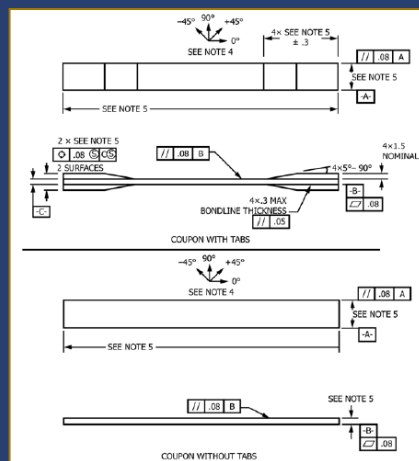
# ASCE Prestandard

- Represents base technical background information upon which future standards will be created
- No guidelines are given for the determination of the flexural and shear strength of circular tubes
- The document gives explicit equations for the axial strength of circular pultruded tubes, but it provides no guidance as to how to determine moduli values for these tubes
- The structural performance is determined by laboratory testing approved by the Engineer of Record



# AASHTO LRFD Guide:

- Determination of strength requires the axial strength of the FRP tube determined in accordance with ASTM D3039
- Coupons conforming with ASTM D3039 cannot be excised from circular tubes
  - The coupons must be rectangular in cross-section
  - The coupons must be balanced and symmetric



# Fender Design with Polymer Materials:

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- Design of fenders requires a reliable estimate of shear rigidity, flexural rigidity, and ultimate strength
  - Can be accomplished through testing pile products as simply supported beams under one and two point loads
  - With an adequate number of tests (Approx. 10) the characteristic values of the material properties can be determined using ASTM D7290 and used directly in design
- Shear deformations can be conservatively neglected when design is governed by load and larger deformations are acceptable
- When deflection is the limiting design factor, shear deformations must be accounted for

# Thanks:

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Mac Rashid  
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Alberto Torres



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Aravinda Ramakrishna  
Raymond Mankbadi





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# New tests:

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